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Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington DC 20530

Dear Attorney Hesse,

As a retiree who depends much upon his investments for income, I want to express my concern regarding the ongoing antitrust case against Microsoft. I do not deny the Justice Department their right to pursue and prosecute violations, but I would hope that they would be a little more cognizant of the effects of their actions. Antitrust actions are not isolated affairs, and an attempt to punish Microsoft for whatever real or perceived offenses has impact on many people.

Ever since the Justice Department began its action against Microsoft, the high tech sector stocks, not only Microsoft but others, have plummeted effecting investors nationally, including institutional investors such as pension funds. This has caused an enormous loss of wealth across the country. I know from conversations with many others that I am not alone in seeing the obvious connection between the antitrust case and the economic slowdown. In such a questionable case of antitrust violation, with no apparent victims, shouldn't the government consider the dire consequences of its actions?

It is my understanding that the Justice Department has presented the Judge in the case with a settlement agreement they have negotiated with Microsoft. For all the reasons cited above, I strongly urge you to do whatever you can to see that it happens.

(With sincere respect,


Kennard A. Spencer